

Another highly-interesting fact concerning these same antlers is their gradual increase in complexity of tines and palm from the Miocene *Oermis matheroni* to the great Irish Elk of post-Tertiary times.

Beyond the antlers there seems to be no character of universal applicability which distinguishes the Cervidae from the nearly-related Antelopes. There are, however, a number of structural features which are *nearly* universally characteristic. Excepting *MoBchus* (which Professor Garrod would not allow to be a "Deer"), no Cervine has a gall-bladder¹ to its liver. All Bovidae (including Antelopes) have, with the exception of *Cephalophus*.

A small but constant character of the Deer is the existence of two orifices to the lachrymal duct. The genus *Tragelaphus* alone among Antelopes shows this character.

So far as is known the placenta of the Deer has but few cotyledons, that of the Bovidae many. But not many types are known.

The navicular, cuboid and ectocuneiform are often united. This is never the case in the Bovidae.

The first and second phalanges of the lateral (imperfectly developed) digits are always present except in the Muntjacs; they are never found in Bovidae. The Deer always present a light brown to a darker brown coloration. *JZlapfoodits micJiianus*

is almost black. There is commonly white on the under parts and beneath the short tail. Some Deer, such as the Fallow Deer, are spotted; and the young of others that are uniformly coloured when adult are spotted. In some cases a winter coat, darker than the summer coat, is developed.

Altogether some sixty species of Deer are known, of which the preponderance are Old-

World form. The Deer of the Old World are distributed among the genera ² *Oervus* (all Europe and Asia); *Oervulus*, the Muntjacs (India, Burmah, China, etc.); *Ifydropotes* (Eastern China); *Capreol<us* (Europe and Central Asia); *JSla/phodus* (Eastern China); there is one American *O&rvns*, the Wapiti. The American genera are *Cariacus* and *FudwM*. The Elk (*Alces*) and the Beindeer (*Rwngifer*) are circum-polar. The principal structural modification which occurs within

¹ It **ba*** "been occasionally recorded in an Axis Deer, and in another species,
 £%r^a*st» m^ermMfxr^.
 , >>

* It is not every o»e that admity s©
 ipuay genera, I follow Sir "Victor Brooke,